macro-layout

Macro Layouts Layouts with Purpose Structure, Flow, User-Centric Design Layout is our invisible conductor—a silent rhythm that brings structure to interaction, movement to content, and clarity to every experience. In Play+, layout is not just a frame—it is the stage where adaptability meets intention. Rooted in our Adaptive and Intuitive pillars, our layout system responds fluidly, guides effortlessly, and feels exactly right—across screens, flows, and user states. Our principles of rhythm, hierarchy, and harmony reduce cognitive overload and preserve focus. Layout breathes life into our Fluid soul and fuels our Metamorphic ambitions—interfaces that intelligently reflow and adapt without losing coherence. Good layout should not be noticed. It should be felt . Our Core Layout Principles ■ Our layout system is governed by five key principles: Principle Design Guideline Developer Implementation Hierarchical Establish a clear visual hierarchy; prominence reflects importance. Use semantic HTML (`<main>`, `<nav>`, `<aside>`) and structure-defining components. Consistent Apply a single spacing/grid system everywhere; eliminate visual guesswork. Use spacing tokens (`$space-*`), not magic numbers. Adhere to grid columns. Adaptable Design layouts that fluidly reflow across devices and contexts. Use mobile-first, relative units (`rem`, `%`). Apply min-width media queries. Efficient Prioritize scan-ability and intent clarity. Avoid clutter and ambiguity. Group related items, use white space to create breathing room and guide the eye. Inclusive Ensure navigable, logical, and accessible layouts for everyone. Preserve logical DOM order, visible focus states, and avoid layout shifts on interaction. The Spacing System (8pt Grid) ■ We use an 8pt spacing system to create rhythm, balance, and harmony. All spacing, padding, and margins are multiples of 8px, ensuring a uniform cadence across devices and layouts. Token Value (px) Use Case `$space-xxs` 4 Fine-tuning within tight UI (e.g., icon+text, badges). `$space-xs` 8 Spacing between closely related elements (e.g., chips, tags). `$space-sm` 16 Internal padding for small containers (e.g., cards, buttons). `$space-md` 24 Gaps between medium components, inter-card spacing. `$space-lg` 32 Section spacing, larger paddings. `$space-xl` 48 Major group separation (e.g., sidebar vs content). `$space-xxl` 64 Hero spacing, visual anchoring for key moments. Note: Spacing transitions are animated subtly across screen size changes, making movement feel organic. The 12-Column Grid System ■ Play+ uses a 12-column responsive grid to structure content across screens. It ensures adaptability without rigidity, and flexibility without chaos. Breakpoint Screen Range Columns Gutter Description Extra Small (xs) 0 - 599px 4 16px Compact stacking for handhelds Small (sm) 600 - 904px 8 24px Tablets, split views Medium (md) 905 - 1239px 12 24px Default web layout size Large (lg) 1240 - 1439px 12 32px Desktops, dashboard spaces Extra Large (xl) 1440px+ 12 32px High-res workspace, full-grid use Columns may be spanned, nested, or left empty to create breathing rhythm. Structural Patterns & Best Practices ■ Common Page Layouts ■ Focus Layout (1-Column) Ideal for forms, articles, sign-in pages. Centered, constrained width for readability. Split View (2-Column) Used for list-detail patterns (e.g., inbox, email). Primary: List pane. Secondary: Details pane. Hub & Spoke (3-Column) Left: Navigation or tree. Center: Workspace. Right: Inspector panel or context info. Persistent Elements ■ Scrolling Best Practices ■ Type When to Use Vertical Default behavior. Keep it unified and page-wide. Inner/Nested Use rarely, with clear affordances. Acceptable for dropdowns, tables, panes. Horizontal Avoid unless displaying uncollapsible tabular data. Provide scroll cues. Affordance Tip: Use fade shadows, scrollbars on hover, or peek visuals to suggest scrollability. Future State: AI-Powered Adaptive Layouts ■ We envision a future where layout decisions are made dynamically—powered by user context, behavior, and goals. Conceptual Use Cases: ■ Power User Desktop 3-column layout with a visible inspector New Mobile User Guided by a simplified, single-column onboarding flow Data-Heavy Dashboard Increases density, while a text-focused page optimizes white space These intelligent adaptations will honor our design pillars, but demand explainability, override controls, and user trust. Play+ is laying the groundwork today—using consistent structure—so that future interfaces can breathe and evolve naturally. Guardrails